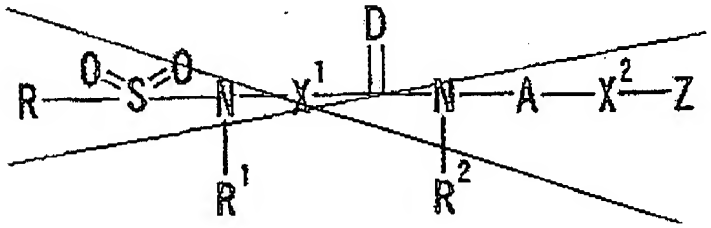
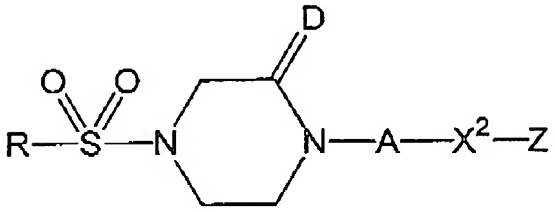
In the Claims

Please make the following changes in the Claims as set forth below.

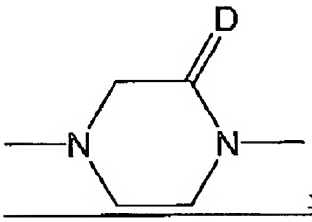
1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A compound represented by Formula:





wherein R is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group,

the group represented by the formula



is optionally substituted,

~~each of R^1 and R^2 is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, or R^1 and R^2 or a substituent on X^1 and R^2 are bound to each other to form an optionally substituted ring, each of X^1 and~~

X^2 is a bond, an optionally substituted alkylene group or an optionally substituted imino group,

D is an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, A is $-N(R^3)-Y-$ or $-N=Y-$,

R^3 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an acyl group,

Y is an optionally substituted linear hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted cyclic group,

Z is (1) an optionally substituted amino group, (2) an optionally substituted imidoyl group or (3) an optionally substituted nitrogen-containing heterocyclic group or a salt thereof.

2. (CANCELED)

3. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group.

4. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R is an optionally substituted heterocyclic group.

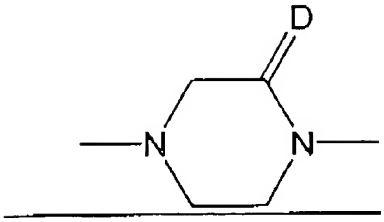
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R is ~~a halogen atom or~~ an aryl group optionally substituted by a halogen atom or a C_{2-4} alkenyl.

6. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R is a naphthyl group optionally substituted by a halogen atom.

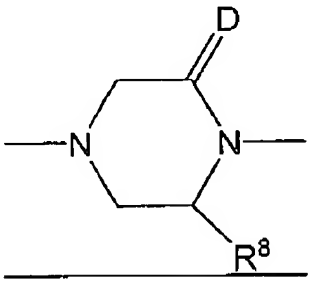
7. (ORIGNAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R is a benzopyranyl group optionally substituted by a halogen atom.

8. (CANCELED)

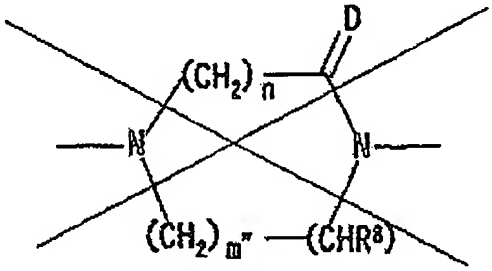
9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The compound according to claim 1 wherein the optionally substituted group represented by the formula



is a group represented by the formula



~~R^a and R^a are bound to each other and taken together with N-Y-CO-N to form a group represented by Formula:~~



wherein ~~n is 1 or 2, m" is 1 or 2,~~ R^8 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydroxyl group, an optionally substituted mercapto group, a nitro group, a cyano group, an optionally substituted amino group, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted lower alkoxy group, an optionally esterified carboxyl group, an optionally substituted carbamoyl group, an optionally substituted

thiocarbamoyl group or an optionally substituted sulfamoyl group, and D is an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom.

10. (CANCELED)

11. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 9 wherein R^8 is a hydrogen atom ~~10 wherein n=1 and m=2~~.

12. (CANCELED)

13. (CANCELED)

14. (CANCELED)

15. (CANCELED)

16. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein an optionally substituted imino group is a group represented by Formula $-N(R^4)-$ wherein R^4 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an acyl group.

17. (CANCELED)

18. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein X^2 is a bond.

19. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R^3 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, formyl or an optionally substituted lower alkanoyl group.

20. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R^3 is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted lower alkyl group.

21. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein Y is an optionally substituted cyclic hydrocarbon group.

22. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein A

is -N(R^3)-Y- and Y is an optionally substituted phenylene.

23. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein Y is an optionally substituted heterocyclic group.

24. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein Y is an optionally substituted piperidine residue.

25. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein Z is an optionally substituted nitrogen-containing heterocyclic group.

26. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1 wherein D is an oxygen atom.

27. (ORIGINAL) A compound selected from the group consisting of 4-(7-chloro-2H-benzopyran-3-sulfonyl)-1-[1-(4-pyridyl)piperidin-4-ylamino]-2-piperazinone, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-[1-(4-pyridyl)piperidin-4-ylamino]-2-piperazinone, 4-(6-bromonaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-[1-(4-pyridyl)piperidin-4-ylamino]-2-piperazinone, 4-(7-bromo-2H-benzopyran-3-sulfonyl)-1-[1-(4-pyridyl)piperidin-4-ylamino]-2-piperazinone, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{methyl[1-(4-pyridyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}-2-piperazinone, 4-(6-bromonaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{methyl[1-(4-pyridyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}-2-piperazinone, 4-(7-bromo-2H-benzopyran-3-sulfonyl)-1-{methyl[1-(4-pyridyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}-2-piperazinone, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{ethyl[1-(4-pyridyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}-2-piperazinone, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{methyl[1-(2-methyl-4-pyridyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}-2-piperazinone, {[4-(6-

chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-2-oxo-1-piperazinyl][1-(2-methyl-4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}acetic acid, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{[1-(4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-6-oxo-2-piperazinecarboxylic acid, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{methyl[1-(4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-6-oxo-2-piperazinecarboxylic acid, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{methyl[1-(4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-6-oxo-2-piperazinecarboxamide, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{methyl[1-(2-methyl-4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-6-oxo-2-piperazinecarboxamide, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-6-hydroxymethyl-1-{methyl[1-(4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-2-piperazinone, 6-aminomethyl-4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{methyl[1-(4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-2-piperazinone, 6-acetylaminomethyl-4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{methyl[1-(4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-2-piperazinone, 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{[1-(4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-6-oxo-2-piperazineacetic acid and 4-(6-chloronaphthalene-2-sulfonyl)-1-{[1-(2-methyl-4-pyridyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-6-oxo-2-piperazineacetic acid as well as a salt thereof.

28. (CANCELED)

29. (ORIGINAL) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

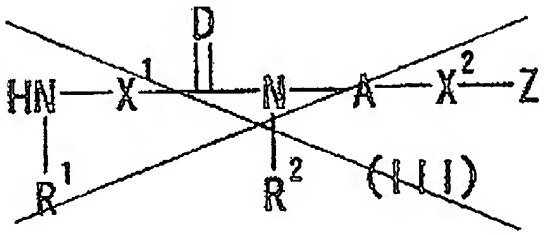
30. (CANCELED)

31. (CANCELED)

32. (CANCELED)

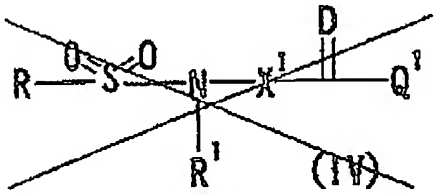
33. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for producing a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof comprising:

reacting a compound represented by Formula (II) RSO_2Q wherein Q is a leaving group and other symbols are defined as described in Claim 1 or a salt thereof with a compound represented by Formula (III):

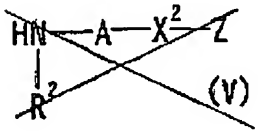


wherein the symbols are defined as described in Claim 1 or a salt thereof~~, or,~~

~~reacting a compound represented by Formula (IV):~~

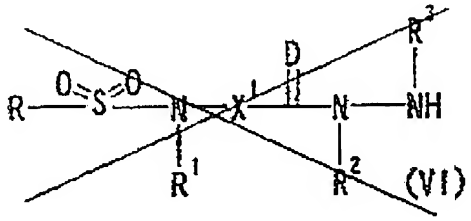


~~wherein Q^1 is a leaving group and other symbols are defined as described in Claim 1 or a salt thereof with a compound represented by Formula (V):~~

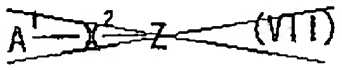


~~wherein the symbols are defined as described in Claim 1 or a salt thereof, or,~~

~~reacting a compound represented by Formula (VI):~~

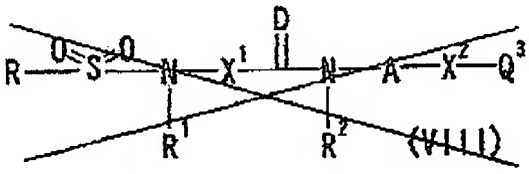


~~wherein the symbols are defined as described in Claim 1 or a salt thereof with a compound represented by Formula (VII):~~

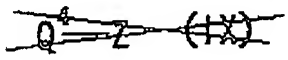


~~wherein A^1 is Q^1-Y- or Q-Y-, Q^1 is a leaving group and other symbols are defined as described in Claim 1 or a salt thereof; or,~~

~~reacting a compound represented by Formula (VIII):~~



~~wherein Q^3 is a hydrogen atom or a leaving group and other symbols are defined as described in Claim 1 or a salt thereof with a compound represented by Formula (IX):~~



~~wherein Q^4 is a hydrogen atom or a leaving group and other symbols are defined as described in Claim 1 or a salt thereof.~~

34. (CANCELED)

35. (CANCELED)

36. (CANCELED)

37. (CANCELED)

38. (CANCELED)

39. (CANCELED)

40. (CANCELED)

41. (CANCELED)

42. (CANCELED)

43. (CANCELED)

44. (CANCELED)

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for inhibiting ~~a~~ blood coagulation in mammals comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof to said mammals.

46. (ORIGINAL) A method for inhibiting an activated coagulation factor X in mammals comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof to said mammals.

47. (ORIGINAL) A method for preventing and treating cardiac infarction, cerebral thrombosis or deep vein thrombosis in mammals comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof to said mammals.

48. (CANCELED)

49. (CANCELED)

50. (CANCELED)